# NOTICE OF ELECTION

## Active Member Elections to the Teachers' Retirement Board

Active members of the Defined Benefit (DB) Program and active participants of the Cash Balance (CB) Benefit Program of the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) are eligible to elect three representatives to the Teachers' Retirement Board. Two of these elected members of the Board will represent active DB members and active CB Benefit Program participants employed in K-12 school districts and County Offices of Education, and one member will represent active DB members and active CB Benefit Program participants employed by community college districts. A plurality of votes cast will determine the winner of each election contest, with the term of office for each elected Board member beginning January 1, 2004, and ending January 1, 2008.

### PROCEDURES FOR BECOMING A CANDIDATE

**Eligibility**— A member of the DB Program or participant of the CB Benefit Program shall qualify for nomination as a candidate if he or she meets the eligibility criteria and submits properly completed forms by the deadlines specified below. An eligible candidate may be nominated as a candidate for only one of the three elected positions on the Board.

Eligible candidates for the first K-12 position on the Board must be active members of the DB Program or active participants of the CB Benefit Program employed by a K-12 school district or County Office of Education.

Eligible candidates for the second K-12 position on the Board must be active members of the DB Program or active participants of the CB Benefit Program employed by a K-12 school district or County Office of Education in a position other than administrator.

Eligible candidates for the community college position on the Board must be active members of the DB Program or active participants of the CB Benefit Program employed as an instructor by a community college district.

**Nomination Packets**— Nomination shall be on the petition form provided by the System, signed by active members and participants. The CalSTRS Election Coordinator will provide candidate nomination packets containing a petition form, nomination certification form, and the election rules and procedures to all active members and participants who request a packet. Candidate Nomination Packets are also available on the System's Web site at <a href="https://www.calstrs.ca.gov">www.calstrs.ca.gov</a>.

**Nomination Petition Form**— A valid Petition Form must contain original signatures of at least two hundred and fifty (250) active members of the DB Program or active participants of the CB Benefit Program who would otherwise be eligible to vote in that election. The legible printed name, year of birth, and last four numbers of the Social Security number must accompany the signature of each active member or participant signing the petition in order to verify membership against the CalSTRS database.

**Nomination Certification Form**— Each candidate must **certify** on the nomination certification form provided by the System that he or she accepts the nomination, consents to serve if elected, agrees to comply with the rules and regulations governing the conduct of Board member elections and abides by a drawing of lots by the Election Coordinator in case of a tied vote.

Candidates must return the original Petition Form and Nomination Certification Form to the CalSTRS Election Coordinator. Only those Petition Forms and Nomination Certification Forms received in the CalSTRS headquarters by 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2003, will be accepted. Completed Petition Forms and Nomination Certification Forms transmitted via facsimile shall be accepted if the original completed forms are received in the headquarters office of the System within seven calendar days following the deadline.

Candidate Statement Form— As part of a candidate statement included in ballot materials sent to eligible voters, each candidate shall provide the following information: Name; Job Title; Employer; status as either an active member of the DB Program or active participant of the CB Benefit Program and years of service as a member or participant; a list of no more than five previous positions held; and a list of no more than five organizations to which the candidate belongs, including any positions held in those organizations. In addition, as part of the candidate statement, a candidate may provide a list of no more than ten endorsements by individuals or entities and answers to three questions specified in regulation which shall, in total, consist of no more than 200 words. The candidate statement must be received by the Election Coordinator by the deadline indicated in the notification letter sent to qualified candidates. Candidate statements may not be changed or withdrawn except by the Election Coordinator, who may remove any portion of the candidate's statement the candidate is unable to verify.

### **VOTER ELIGIBILITY**

Eligible voters in the elections are persons who were members of the DB Program and participants of the CB Benefit Program employed by a K-12 school district, county office of education, or community college district during the 2002-03 school year, between July 1, 2002, and June 30, 2003. The Election Coordinator will mail ballots and candidate statements to each eligible voter for whom CalSTRS has a valid mailing address recorded. The Election Coordinator will provide ballots and candidate statements upon request to eligible voters who do not have a valid mailing address recorded with CalSTRS.

### **ELECTION SCHEDULE**

DEADLINE	ACTION
May 15, 2003	Deadline for the CalSTRS receipt of the Nomination Petitions and Nomination Certifications forms.
July 1, 2003	Deadline for the CalSTRS receipt of the Candidate Statement form.
August 1, 2003	Random drawing for the order of candidate names on the ballot.
October 1, 2003	Ballots mailed directly to eligible voters. Automated voting services activated and available for eligible voters to cast their votes.
December 1, 2003	Voted ballots must be postmarked or received by CalSTRS in the postage-paid envelope on or before this date to be counted. Automated voting services deactivated.
December 10, 2003	At the location designated by CalSTRS, the sealed, signed envelopes containing the voted ballots will be opened and the ballots removed. Thereafter, the ballots will be tabulated. On December 18, 2003, the Chief Executive Officer will certify the candidates receiving a plurality of votes as having been elected.
January 1, 2004	The newly elected Board members will be seated on the Teachers' Retirement Board in accordance with Education Code Section 22200.

For answers to questions, general information, a nomination petition form or the CalSTRS Board election regulations, contact the Election Coordinator <u>at (916) 229-3224</u>, <u>by E-mail at electioncoordinator@calstrs.ca.gov</u> or write to the Election Coordinator at the address below.

Election Coordinator California State Teachers' Retirement System P.O. Box 15275 Sacramento, CA 95851-0275